

Message Text

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43

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 MC-02 ACDA-19 AID-20 OMB-01 DRC-01 /170 W

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R 111318Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6003

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 0876

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, SA, UN

SUBJECT: FRENCH VIEWS ON SOUTH AFRICA IN THE UN

1. IN COURSE OF CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF JANUARY 10, QUAIDEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR NON-FRANCOPHONE AFRICA COMBAL SAID THAT A MEETING OF HIGH-LEVEL FRENCH OFFICIALS WAS CALLED IN DECEMBER TO CONSIDER FRENCH RELATIONS WITH SOUTH AFRICA. THE GROUP CONCLUDED THAT THE WEST, ESPECIALLY FANCE, HAS COME TO THE POINT IN UN CONSIDERATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEMS, NOTABLY NAMIBIA, WHERE TACTICAL AGILITY AND DIPLOMATIC FINESSE CAN NOT MUCH LONGER FORESTALL AN AFRICAN-SPONSORED SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN ECONOMIC BOYCOTT OF SOUTH AFRICA. SHOULD SUCH A CRUNCH SITUATION ARISE, AS THE FRENCH THINK IT SHORTLY WILL, COMBAL SAID THE GROUP HAD DECIDED, WITH PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL, THAT FRANCE WOULD "NOT EXCLUDE THE USE OF THE VETO."

2. COMMENT: COMBAL MAY BE PASSING ALONG THIS INFORMATION IN THE HOPE THAT ITS QUIET DISSEMINATION WOULD BE USEFUL IN DISCOURAGING INTRODUCTION OF ABOYCOTT RESOLUTION. ON THE OTHER HAND, HE SEEMED SINCERE IN STATING THAT THE FRENCH NOW BELIEVE THAT IF THEY CONTINUE TO SELL MIRAGES AND OTHER MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO SOUTH AFRICA, AS HE MADE IT CLEAR THEY INTND TO DO, THEY WILL SOON BE FORCED TO STAND UP AND BE COUNTED

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IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

STONE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 11 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: kelleyw0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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